IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: IIZUKA, Thoru et al.

Conf.:

Appl. No.:

NEW

Group:

Filed:

August 29, 2001

Examiner:

For:

PNEUMATIC TIRE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

August 29, 2001

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) The pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein the topping rubber includes 30 to 60 parts by weight of carbon black with respect to 100 parts by weight of the rubber base.

REMARKS

The amendment to the claims is merely to delete multiple dependencies and to place the application into better form for examination. Entry of the present amendment and favorable action on the above-identified application are earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up copy of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

0229-0657P

JAK/sll

(Rev. 03/27/01)

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The claims have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) The pneumatic tire according to claim 1 [or 2 or 3], wherein the topping rubber includes 30 to 60 parts by weight of carbon black with respect to 100 parts by weight of the rubber base.